

**THE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN BETRAYED!**

From the signs, which are each day more and more common, we are led to believe that the Federal party are about to perpetrate upon the people a fraud, of a character as palpable as its effects will be injurious to the best interests of the country. Nothing less, we firmly believe, is intended, than the restoration of the Tariff of 1842, and perhaps, too, the whole brood of Federal measures with which it is identified. It becomes our duty again to sound the alarm. Be not deceived, Democrats, by professions of moderation. They are all hollow and deceitful. The sickly cant about reconciliation of division, and harmonizing the distracted feelings of the country, is intended, as we have all along declared, to mislead the guardians of the people's rights. Awake ye that sleep! Gird on the armor of battle. The time is rapidly approaching when the Democratic party must compose their differences, and stand up anew for the vindication of those views of public policy which, during the last four years, have given so great a momentum to every branch of our national prosperity.

In some hasty remarks last week, upon Gen. Taylor's Inaugural, we gave the old man every credit for sincerity of purpose. We dislike to be forced to the conclusion that one so little skilled in civil affairs, should have so rapidly acquired knowledge and experience in all those arts of political intrigue and management which mark the career of older politicians; but however disagreeable the task, we have no choice between exposing what may seem his duplicity, and convicting him of a want of foresight and common prudence, unworthy of his former character. Such is the only alternative presented us. Of the two, we make choice of the latter, and, for the sake of argument, will believe that Gen. Taylor is absolutely ignorant of the opinions of the leading members of his Cabinet. We are not yet prepared to say that a man who so constantly avowed himself the candidate of the people—who declared that he would receive with equal pleasure a Democratic or a Whig nomination—and who owes his election to the united support of moderate men of all parties—is now, in the teeth of his former declarations, and in defiance of his position, about to inflict upon the country, knowingly and willingly, a strictly party administration. But though we may believe that General Taylor will endeavor to moderate the partisan structure of his Cabinet, we have little hope that his influence will be able to arrest the struggle which is inevitable. The old battle will have to be again fought. The old feud recovered. Federalism will make another desperate struggle for pre-eminence, and the friends of the Union and the Constitution must be on the alert. It will be only necessary to call the reader's attention to the following extract from the leading article in the Philadelphia North American, of the 7th December, a paper which seems to be recognized as the peculiar organ of Mr. Meredith, the new Secretary of the Treasury, to justify our worst apprehensions. The Editor is speaking of his appointment as a State Senator, in connection with the alleged free trade views of the Secretary, and his indisposition to arrest the salutary operations of the Tariff of 1846. "Since the name of Mr. Meredith," says he, "has been suggested in connection with the senatorship, attempts have been made in various quarters to misrepresent his opinions in regard to questions of public policy, and especially in regard to the question of protection to American industry. Now, it so happens, that for more years than we care to mention, we have enjoyed the privilege of the most friendly intercourse with Mr. Meredith, and have had constant opportunities of knowing his views of public measures, and we assert, that in reference to all the leading topics which now agitate this country, his views coincide with those entertained by the whig party."

The position of the Secretary of State upon this question is even more explicit. His own language, addressed to the Whigs of Delaware in November, 1846, will, we trust, be sufficient to warn us of the folly of expecting this moderate Cabinet to suffer the continuance of even a shadow of the present system. "If there be any among us," says that distinguished gentleman, "who shall desire to play that game, or dare to offer as a whig measure any proposition which has for its object to baffle and defeat the unequivocal restoration of the tariff of 1842, let us at once repudiate the measure as uncalled for by the people, and opposed to their wishes. Scouting all abstractions and generalities, let us continue to present the principle for which we now contend, manfully and openly, as an object visible and tangible—the restoration of the whig tariff of 1842. Let this stand as the watchword of the party—the shibboleth of our political faith. Inscribe it on every white flag, and each will become a *lumen* as inviolable as the banner of the Constantines."

We may have occasion hereafter to allude to the equally ultra position of the other members of Gen. Taylor's Cabinet. We have said sufficient to-day to put the Democracy upon their guard, and to demonstrate that in selecting such men for his confidential advisers, the present Executive has betrayed the interests of a large number, perhaps a majority, of his supporters, and violated the pledges upon which he was elevated to the Presidential chair.

The consequences of the measures which, under such advice, he may recommend to Congress, are not now the subject of argument. We conceive that if they will have even a remote tendency to disturb the present harmonious relations of our political system, it will be sufficient to array against them every friend of constitutional liberty, and every disinterested lover of his country.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—H. S. U., sent to us by J. B., came too late for notice to-day. It will receive attention next week.

"We understand that it has been found necessary by the President of the United States to require that all applications for office shall be made to the Chiefs of the several Departments, by whom they will be submitted at the proper time. No direct application can be entertained by the President for any office whatever."—Intelligencer.

The above reminds us of a remark made by a Whig, in our presence, a few days since, "That Gen. Taylor was a mere 0 in the Presidential chair."

**COUNTY COURT.**

The Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for this County assembled on Monday last, Justice MILLER Presiding, and will continue in session for two weeks. We learn that this term will be scarcely long enough to dispose of all the business brought before it.

**ASSESSMENT OF TAXES.**—The Court have made the assessment of the County Taxes for 1848, as follows:

County Tax,	30 cts.
Poor " "	25
School " "	10—65
Patrol " on black poll,	8—73
On the \$100 valuation of Real Estate.	
County Tax,	11
Poor " "	6
School " "	4—21

W. S. ASHE, Esq., was on Tuesday last, elected Solicitor of the County of New Hanover, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of DAVID FULTON, Esq.

63-JAMES L. CORBET, was on Tuesday last, elected by the Court of Pleas, now in session, Inspector of Provisions, for five years, under the late act of the Legislature.

R. G. Rankin, S. M. West, and John Walker, Jr., have been appointed County Auctioneers; C. W. Murphy, County Surveyor, and Moses Lewis, Inspector of Staves.

**COUNTY MAGISTRATES.**

There having been several new appointments made by the late Legislature to this body, we have thought a correct list of the Magistrates for this County will be interesting, as a matter of reference, to many of our readers. They are as follows:—

Jas. T. Miller, Ch'n, Duval McMillan, Alexander McRae, John McAuslan, David McIntire, James McDuffie, Wm. C. Bennett, John P. Beauman, Jeremiah Nichols, John Bunting, Joseph E. Bunting, M. W. Campbell, Daniel Sherwood, John A. Sanders, Daniel S. Sanders, Thomas L. Corbett, George W. Croom, John B. Croom, Edward B. Taylor, John Walker, Daniel Dickson, Thomas H. Wright, Wm. N. Peden, Stephen D. Wallace, Wm. S. Pridgen, Joseph M. Foy, William S. Larkins, Dugald A. Lamont, Alexander Lamont, M. C. Collins.

**CAPE FEAR AND DEEP RIVERS.**—In another column we publish the proceedings of a meeting, held in this town on Tuesday evening last, relative to the contemplated improvement of the above Rivers. We are pleased to inform the friends of this important enterprise, that subscriptions to the amount of 12,500 dollars have been subscribed by citizens of this place, and that the subscription here, will, in all probability, be increased. If our information from the upper counties is correct, there has already been \$87,500 subscribed by individuals, which leaves (subtracting the capital stock at \$200,000) only \$32,500 more to be raised. The Deep River improvement may be now, we think, be looked upon as a matter of certainty.

63-The Fayetteville Carolinian of the 10th instant, says that \$55,000 have thus far been subscribed to the Plank Road, from that town to Salisbury. The Carolinian says, "there is supposed to be no doubt of its construction."

The same paper says that \$75,000 have been subscribed to the Cape Fear and Deep River improvement; and there also seems to be considerable spirit in regard to the Central Road.

**THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.**

We invite the attention of every Southern slaveholder and citizen, to the Lecture, a portion of which is published on the 1st page.—It is certainly the most original and extraordinary political document that has appeared for twenty years. We request our readers to preserve it as it appears. We will finish it in two or three more numbers, when we purpose, should no other matter of more urgency then require notice, to call further attention to the striking facts, gathered from the most authentic sources, upon which Mr. Fisher bases the moral, political and social pre-eminence of the Southern section of this Union, in every department of wealth, skill or science, above, not only the North, but indeed every existing civilized community.

The effect of this document will be to settle the question forever. It will silence the impudent taunts of our Northern brethren, as to our inferiority in any department. It is due to Mr. Fisher to say that he is the first, who has so successfully and triumphantly sustained the position.

We have had the curiosity to compare President Taylor's Inaugural Address, as to its length, with those of the "earlier Presidents," and this is the result: Taylor's contains 1159 words; Washington's 1499 words; John Adams' 2219 words; Jefferson's 1767 words; Madison's 1207 words; Monroe's 1374 words.

What a wonderful discovery! Our neighbor over the way is certainly a very industrious Editor! While he was making the comparison above, it may very reasonably be presumed that he also made another discovery, equally remarkable, but which he has not divulged, viz: while the General's Inaugural contains fewer words than the Inaugurals of any of his predecessors named, it also contains less sense and meaning.

**THE DISTINCTION.**

We see that the above Musicians are expected here in a few days. We take the following notice of the Company, from the Norfolk Argus:

"The wonderful musicians, who are no less famed in Europe than in this country, were to have given a concert in Richmond on Saturday night, and are to appear in Petersburg on the 15th. Their music is represented to be perfectly enchanting—at one time wild and sweeping as a mountain torrent—and, at another, soft as a summer zephyr." The Richmond Enquirer says, "the instruments on which they perform are of an entirely novel character; the Sax Horns or Tubes; so called we believe, from the inventor or manufacturer, in Paris."

**GEN. SHIELDS INELIGIBLE.**—Through the Charleston Courier's Washington correspondence under date of last Monday, we learn that the Select Committee appointed by the Senate to take the case of Gen. Shields into consideration, have unanimously decided that he is ineligible to a seat in that body.

From the same source we learn that thirty nominations to office have been made and referred to the appropriate Committees of the Senate.

P. S. Since the above was in type, we have received the proceedings of the Senate of last Tuesday. The committee made their report on the Shields' case on that day, which, being short, we lay it before our readers:

That having given due notice to said Shields, he appeared before them, and they took the subject into consideration.

They further report that the said certificate of election declares that the said James Shields was chosen a Senator of the United States by the Legislature of the State of Illinois, on the 13th day of January, 1848, that further, he appears and is admitted by the said James Shields that he is an alien by birth, and the only proof before the committee of the naturalization of the said Shields in the United States, is contained in the copy of a certificate of naturalization in the Circuit Court of Effingham County, in the said State of Illinois, which is annexed to and made part of this report, by which certificate it appears that the said James Shields was admitted by said Court a citizen of the United States on the 21st day of October, 1840. The committee therefore report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the election of James Shields to be a Senator of the United States, was void, he not having been a citizen of the United States the term of years required as a qualification to be a Senator of the United States.

A long debate ensued on this resolution. The subject was, however, finally postponed until the following day—last Wednesday.

A number of resignations of democratic office-holders, under the late administration, have been handed in to Gen. Taylor. This course, we presume, has been adopted in preference to submitting to a peremptory refusal at the hands of Gen. Taylor and his Cabinet. By the way the General's Cabinet should always be taken into consideration, in matters of this kind, since the fact has been officially announced that "all such applications (for appointment) must be presented to the appropriate heads of Departments."

63-Meetings have been held in Raleigh and Greensborough, to take into consideration the action of the late Legislature of this State, relative to Internal Improvements. Spirited resolutions were adopted, approving of the several measures, and steps have been taken for the purpose of opening books of subscription to the Central Rail Road.

When will our people make a move in this important matter?

The following is a Resolution adopted by the meeting recently held in Raleigh: "That we strongly suggest to our fellow-citizens of Wake, and the public generally, the urgent necessity of active, prompt and energetic measures to secure the liberal charter granted by the late Legislature; and that a general meeting of the citizens of this and the adjoining counties, be invited to be held in this City, on Thursday, the 19th day of April next, for the purpose of adopting the necessary measures for procuring subscriptions to the stock of the North Carolina Central Rail Road Company."

**AIRIAL STEAMER.**—Wonders will never cease. There is now being constructed, in New York, an Aerial Steam Boat, intended to navigate the air, and carry passengers to California. This is certainly a very novel undertaking. But no human being can foretell what can be accomplished by the ingenuity of man. A century ago the idea of Steam Boat water navigation was viewed as obsolete and preposterous—contemned and ridiculed as much as the idea of navigating the air by Steam is at this day. But let what may be accomplished in aerial steam navigation, we for one have no disposition to be a passenger on board the Steamer, at least on her first voyage. It is calculated that the trip to California will be accomplished in five days, with 200 passengers and baggage.

**THE SLAVERY QUESTION—FIRST MOVE.**

While numerous meetings have been held in the States of South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia, approving of the address put forth by a large majority of the Democratic (which was also signed by two or three Federal) delegation in Congress from the Southern States, but one meeting on the subject has yet been held in North Carolina. We copy below the proceedings had on the occasion.

**PUBLIC MEETING.**

At a meeting of the citizens of Warren County, held at the Court House in Warren, on Tuesday evening the 27th ult., for the purpose of expressing their opinions concerning the all important question of Slavery. On motion, John B. Somerville, Esq., was called to the Chair, and William A. Jenkins, appointed Secretary. The Chair having called upon Dr. R. C. Pritchard, to explain the object of the meeting, he did so, with a few remarks in his usually eloquent and impressive style, on motion, the Chair then called the following gentlemen, Dr. R. C. Pritchard, E. A. Thornton, Wm. K. Kearney, Solon Southernland, E. A. Cheek, a Committee, to draft Resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting; after referring for a few moments, they presented the following Resolutions as the result of their investigation, which were taken separately and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That we, the people of Warren County, in Public Meeting assembled, do protest against any interference on the part of the Federal Government with the question of slavery; and that the passage of the Wilmot Proviso, or any law interfering with the rights of master and slave in the District of Columbia, will justify the people of the South in adopting all measures necessary to secure their equal rights, and to preserve the Federal Constitution, as it is.

Resolved, That we entirely approve of the Address recently made by the Southern members, of the Legislature of the Southern States, and that we pledge ourselves to do all in our power to carry out their views therein expressed; and that furthermore, we think the members from North Carolina who refused to sign that address, disregarded the wishes and interests of the people.

Resolved, That a copy of the above resolutions be sent by the next mail to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Resolved, That the Editor of the Warrenton Reporter be most respectfully requested to insert the proceedings of this meeting in his next paper.

JOHN B. SOMERVILLE, Ch'n.

WILL A. JENKINS, Sec.

The Hon. Daniel M. Barringer, it is said, has been appointed by Gen. Taylor, Minister to Spain, in place of Gen. Saunders, who desires to return home. We do not vouch for this, but only give the rumor as we have heard it.—*Rail Standard.*

**UNITED STATES SENATE.**

The U. S. Senate now in Session at Washington, have confirmed the following nominations for the new Cabinet:

Mr. John M. Clayton, of Delaware, to be Secretary of State.  
Mr. William M. Meredith, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of the Treasury.  
Mr. William Ballard Preston, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Navy.  
Mr. George W. Crawford, of Georgia, to be Secretary of War.  
Mr. Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, to be Secretary of the Home Department.  
Mr. Jacob Collamer, of Vermont, to be Postmaster General.  
Mr. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, to be Attorney General.

Mr. Johnson tendered his resignation, as U. S. Senator from the State of Maryland, on the 9th inst.

On the 7th inst., Mr. Mangum submitted a list of names for the standing committees, accompanied by a resolution that they be appointed, without a formal vote, and stating, that though, in the list, the several committees had not been entirely filled up, the deficiencies could be supplied hereafter, as no great question would be likely to arise at present, requiring the action of a full committee.

The resolution was adopted, and the following Senators accordingly, for the present, constitute the standing committee:—

On Foreign Relations—Messrs. Cass, Benton, Webster, Mangum, Foote.  
On Finance—Messrs. Dickinson, Douglass, Webster, Hunter, Phelps.  
On Commerce—Messrs. Hamlin, Soule, Davis, of Mass., Smith, Fitzpatrick.  
On Manufactures—Messrs. Sebastian, Butler, Jones.  
On Agriculture—Messrs. Sturgeon, Turney, Walker.  
On Military Affairs—Messrs. Davis, of Miss., Benton, Bell, Borland, Dawson.  
On the Militia—Messrs. Houston, Fitzpatrick, Dodge, of Wisconsin.  
On Naval Affairs—Messrs. Yulee, Bright, Mason, Badger, Miller.  
On Public Lands—Messrs. Felch, Borland, Shields.  
On Private Land Claims—Messrs. Downs, Whitcomb, Dickinson.  
On Indian Affairs—Messrs. Atchison, Sebastian, Rusk, Phelps, Bell.  
On Claims—Messrs. Whitcomb, Norris, Jones.  
On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Walker, Norris, Dodge, of Ohio.  
On the Judiciary—Messrs. Butler, Downs, Bradbury, Berrien, Dayton.  
On the Post Office and Post Roads—Messrs. Rusk, Sturgeon, Soule, Pearce, Corwin.  
On Roads and Canals—Messrs. Bright, Atchison, Foote.  
On Pensions—Messrs. Dodge, of Wis., Fitzpatrick, Hunter.  
On the District of Columbia—Messrs. Mason, Yulee, Shields.  
On Patents and the Patent Office—Messrs. Turney, Norris, Whitcomb.  
On Retrenchment—Messrs. Bradbury, Houston, Felch.  
On Territories—Messrs. Douglass, Butler, Houston.  
On Public Buildings—Messrs. Hunter, Yulee.

To Audit and control the contingent expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Dodge, of Iowa, Walker, and Smith.

On Printing—Messrs. Borland, Hamlin.

On Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Jones, Sebastian.

On the Library—Messrs. Pearce, Davis, of Mississippi.

On Enrolled Bills—Mr. Rusk.

Select Committee on Shields' Eligibility—Messrs. Benton, Felch, Mason, Webster, Pearce.

**WILMINGTON, March 13, 1849.**

A meeting was held this evening at Masonic Hall, to take into consideration the subject of the contemplated improvement of the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers. Gen. Alex. McRae was called to the chair, and O. G. Parsley and W. O. Jeffreys were appointed Secretaries. The meeting was briefly addressed by Mr. T. W. Brown and Capt. Gilbert Potter, who exhibited handsome specimens of coal and iron ore procured by them on a recent visit to Chatham County, and gave a very interesting statement of the apparent feasibility of the work, the resources of the country, and the vast benefits likely to result from the accomplishment of the work, to the town of Wilmington and the interior Counties which will thus have a good market opened for their products at a small expense for transportation.

Mr. W. S. Ashe, Senator from the County, being called on, also made a few forcible remarks on the practicability of the work, and the great advantages likely to flow from it.

Mr. B. I. Howe next addressed the meeting, saying that he had spent the winter of his intimate acquaintance with the upper country, enabled him to furnish much interesting and valuable information; and on closing his remarks offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting highly approves of the address recently made by the Legislature, in regard to the Internal Improvement of the State, and that in the independence, liberality and patriotism which dictated that address, they recognize the harbinger of a bright and prosperous future.

Resolved, That party politics being cast aside, we can and do unite and gracefully yield to moderate representation in both branches of the Legislature? Well done, ye good and faithful servants.

Resolved, That while we do most cordially desire the speedy and successful completion of every project of Internal Improvement, authorized by the last session of the Legislature, we yet feel called upon to devote our chief attention and assistance to the improvement of the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers.

An opportunity being then offered for subscription to stock, a number of Gentlemen present came forward and made subscriptions, which show that this community are alive to the importance of the work, and that however their energies may have been strained on other works already completed and in process of completion, this shall also receive their aid.

The meeting then adjourned.

ALEX. McRAE, Chairman.

O. G. PARSLEY, Secretary.

W. O. JEFFREYS, Secretary.

**The Government Finances.**—The Washington Union in reply to the charges of those who assert that there will be a deficiency in the National Treasury on the 1st July, 1849, says that the receipts will equal, if not exceed the Secretary's estimates. The receipts from customs, from 1st July to 13th February have not been less than \$18,000,000, and that, at this average, the increase of the year will be upward of \$33,000,000, instead of \$32,000,000. On the 5th of February, the Treasury contained \$4,944,000, subject to the drafts of the Treasurer, after deducting outstanding drafts; and in addition to this, two and three-quarter millions of the New Loan are yet available.

**RECEPTION OF MR. POLK AT CHARLESTON.**

The Mercury gives the following spirited description of the reception of Mr. Polk and suite at Charleston, on the 5th inst.:

He was received at the steamboat wharf by the Committee of Reception, and was welcomed by their chairman, H. W. Conner, Esq., in some very appropriate remarks, to which Mr. Polk made an eloquent reply. He then entered a barouche drawn by four handsome greys, under the management of that skillful and accomplished whip, Isaac Matthews, and, together with his suite, and the committee, in vehicles, and escorted by an imposing array of military, proceeded to the Carolina Hotel in Broad-street, where apartments had been provided for him. At 12 o'clock, he was received at the City Hall, by his Honor the Mayor, who in some laudatory remarks, welcomed him to the city, and tendered to him his hospitality, to which Mr. Polk, happily and graciously replied. A great number of our citizens were then introduced to him, and at one o'clock he proceeded to the quarters of his Excellency, Governor Seabrook, by whom he was welcomed to the State. At four o'clock, he sat down to a dinner, at which were present, and served by Lee in company with about one hundred gentlemen, and after full justice was done to the delicacies of the table, the health of the Ex-President was proposed by his Honor the Mayor, which was received with enthusiastic applause, and drank with all the honors. The President made a brief but eloquent and appropriate reply, and concluded with a sentiment complimentary to Charleston. Toasts were also given complimentary to Hon. R. J. Walker, Hon. M. Cobb, of Alabama, His Excellency Governor Seabrook, the City of Savannah, and others, which were happily responded to, but which we find out of our power even to prepare a sketch of for the present paper. We shall attempt it in our next.

In the evening a large number of ladies and gentlemen paid their respects to Mrs. and Mr. Polk at their lodgings, where they had an opportunity of witnessing and appreciating that winning, graceful and unaffected dignity of manner which has made her who but recently presided over the hospitable of the White House so widely and so deservedly esteemed and admired.

The entire occurrences of the day, owing to the admirable arrangements of the Committee, passed off most agreeably, and without hindrance or accident. The only matter for regret, and this was generally expressed, was the brevity of the interval which our distinguished guests could consent to remain in our midst. They will leave this morning in the boat for Savannah, at 7 o'clock, in charge of the Committee from that city.

**DEPARTURE OF MR. POLK.**

At an early hour on Saturday morning, Ex-President Polk and suite left us on their route home, taking the boat for Savannah. They were accompanied to the wharf by the Committee of citizens and Council, in the same elegant equipages that were provided to bring them from the Wilmington steamer.

On reaching Central wharf, they found the canopy completed, which the patriotism of the young gentlemen employed there, had commenced erecting the previous afternoon, under which they passed, to get on board the boat.

It was tasteful and appropriate, constructed as it was at a moment's thought. We have been kindly furnished with the following description of it:

The Canopy consisted of two square pillars, 15 feet high, composed of square hales Carolina Upland Cotton, resting upon bases of large Georgia bales, (in compliment to our State), each pillar faced with a hales of Carolina Sea Island Cotton, a barrel of Rice Carolina Sea Island Cotton, having inscribed on it capped each pillar, one having inscribed on it the words "Free Trade," and the other "Commerce and Agriculture." A beam of Carolina pine, covered with American ensigns, in graceful festoons, extended from pillar to pillar, and supported this inscription, encircled by Arborvitae and cedar, and a pensive in festoons:

THE OLD PALMETTO STATE  
BIDS THEE FAREWELL.

Arborvitae, laurel, cedar, and palmetto, were entwined around the pillars.

Across the wharf, to the rear of the pillars, was suspended a handsome banner, representing Jasper replacing the flag on the ramparts of Fort Moultrie, and on the reverse side, "The Rescue"—supporting which, on each side, were an Union Jack and an American ensign.

**LETTER FROM MR. CLAY.**

The Washington papers contain a lengthy letter from Mr. Clay, on the subject of Emancipation in Kentucky. We avail ourselves of the following synopsis of the letter, which we find in the Charleston Courier:

Mr. Clay says that after full and deliberate consideration of the subject, it appears to him that three principles should regulate the establishment of a system of gradual emancipation. The first is that it should be slow in its operation, and cautious and gradual, so as to occasion no convulsion, or any rash or sudden disturbance in the existing habits of society. Secondly, that it should be an indispensable condition that emancipation should be removed to some colony. And thirdly, that the expenses of transportation to such colony, including an outfit for six months after their arrival, should be defrayed by funds raised from the labor of such freed slaves.

Nothing could be more ruinous than the idea of liberating all the slaves in the State, or of liberating them by instalments, from that of tender infamy to that of extreme old age. It would lead to the most frightful and fatal consequences. Any great change in the condition of society should be marked by extreme care and circumspection. The introduction of slaves into the colonies was an operation of many years, and the work of removing them from the United States can only be effected after a lapse of a great length of time. I think (says Mr. Clay), that a period should be fixed when all born after it should be free at a specified age. That period I would suggest should be 1855, or even 1860, for on this or any other arrangements of the kind, if adopted, I incline to a liberal margin, so as to obviate as many objections, and unite as many opinions as possible. When the commencement of the operation of this system be a little earlier or a little later, is not so important as that it should be permanently fixed, to which we could look forward with confidence to the final termination of slavery within the limits of the commonwealth.

Whatever may be the day fixed for emancipation, whether it be 1855 or 1860, or any other day, all thereafter born, I suggest, should be free at the age of 25, but liable afterwards to be hired out, under the authority of the State, for a term not exceeding three years, the expense of transportation to the colony, and to provide them an outfit for six months after their arrival there.

We understand that the Secretary of the Home Department (Mr. Ewing) has called upon the Land Office, and we presume the office of the clerk's employment, for a list of the clerks employed, stating at what time they came into office, and whom they succeeded, &c. &c.—Union.

**63-A French Legislator has proposed to create a tax of 5¢—ninety cents—on all persons who either "smoke or snuff."**

He estimates the income from such a tax, at forty million of francs. The globe says that a tax on tobacco chewing, smoking, and snuffing, at the French rate, would produce, in the United States, not less than 6 or 7 millions of dollars per annum. The Globe says:

We do not recommend to our legislators to tax this luxury—the use of tobacco; we only notice what is proposed in an other republic, which it may be well enough to remember, as well as the proposition of M. Portalis to tax refractory and unmarried old widowers and bachelors, which produced lately a good deal of consternation at Paris among the two domed fraternities, and a good deal of merriment at their expense.

**COUNCIL OF STATE.**

We understand that the following Members of the Council assembled at the Capitol, in pursuance of the call of Gov. Manly, viz: E. Erwin, Thomas A. Allison, Charles L. Payne, John Winslow, and Joshua Tayloe, Esquires, and were organized on Tuesday last, by the appointment of Col. Taylor as President, and L. Cheves Manly as Secretary.

The following nominations were thereupon submitted by the Governor, viz:

For Board of Internal Improvement: Frederick J. Hill, of Brunswick County, Calvin Graves, of Caswell County, George Little, of Wake County, Weldon N. Edwards, of Warren County.

These nominations were all unanimously confirmed, and the Council thereupon adjourned without day.—*Raleigh Register.*

**63-The Washington Union, speaking of the charge of "diplomatic smuggling,"**

which has been going the rounds of the papers, remarks: "We are authorized to state that the late administration never learned which of the diplomatic agents at 'one of the northern courts of Europe,' was charged with this offence. The first intimation that our charge d'affaires at Stockholm was the individual alluded to in the newspapers of the day, reached the Department of State as it reached us, in the Baltimore Sun of the 3d instant. If the accusation, as the Commercial Advertiser asserts, 'comes from an official source, and has for some time been accessible to the authorities at Washington, with the evidence to sustain it,' that official source has taken good care never to communicate the information to the Secretary of State."

**For the Journal.**

At a meeting of Belmont Lodge No. 108, of Free and Accepted Masons, held in Duplin County, on Wednesday, March 7th, 1849, A. L. 5849, the following resolutions were adopted, expressive of the feelings of the brethren in attendance.

WHEREAS, by a visitation of Divine Providence, our esteemed brother, Lewis S. HERRING, has been called home;

Resolved, That in our deceased brother we recognized a warm-hearted and zealous Mason.

Resolved, That although he is gone, yet his memory still lives with us, and his name is written on the tablet of our hearts.

Resolved, That in testimony of regard for our departed brother, the members of this Lodge wear the usual badge of mourning for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That the Secretary send a copy of the above resolutions to the family of the deceased; also a copy to each of the Editors of the town of Wilmington, with a request that they be published by order.

63-The papers of Wilmington are requested to copy.

**WASHINGTON, March 13.**

The nominations yesterday sent in, were all to-day confirmed; and just before the termination of the debate to-day on the question of Shields' eligibility, another message was received from the President, by the hand of Col. Bliss, making sundry other nominations, chiefly unimportant, and relating to the customs, with the exception of Mr. Evans, of Me. Payne, of North Carolina, and Mr. Caleb B. Smith, of Indiana, as the Board of Commissioners on Mexican claims.

**Corr.**